

BOMB PATROLS GUARD NEVADA

Brooklyn and Manhattan
Bridges Cleared as
Battleship Comes In.

STACKS TARGETS FOR DYNAMITERS

Captain of New Warcraft Not
Aware of Precautions to
Insure Safety.

Detectives and Secret Service men were on guard on the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges yesterday afternoon when the battleship Nevada steamed up the East River to the navy yard. A strict watch was maintained to protect Uncle Sam's biggest "floating fortress" from any unfriendly act. It was said at the navy yard that all ships coming under the bridges are marks for bombs or infernal machines.

The Nevada was scheduled to get to the navy yard on Wednesday. She was delayed at Quincey, Mass., where the Fore River Shipbuilding Company has its plant. The yard officials were anxiously awaiting the big battleship, and Police Headquarters was notified to keep a watch on the bridges. When the Nevada reached Governor's Island all persons were kept from the center of the Brooklyn Bridge.

A few minutes later the same precautions were taken on the Manhattan Bridge. The vessel held a course almost under the center of the two spans. Two tugs pulled the big ship up the East River and she reached the navy yard without a mishap.

One of the officials of the navy yard said last night that the idea of guarding the bridges came from Washington. The officer pointed out that the smokestacks being so much nearer the spans, dropping of bombs into them would be a comparatively easy task. They are several feet in diameter, the officer pointed out, and no skilful marksman would be needed to send a bomb right down to the furnaces in the engine room.

Rear Admiral Usher asked Police Commissioner Woods to watch both bridges. The Nevada is to stay at the navy yard for two months to get her finishing touches. The fire control system is to be installed by the navy yard officers. This system contains a number of government secrets. Torpedo tubes, as well as other details, are to be put in.

Captain Sims, commander of the new battleship, did not know of all the precautions being taken to guard the vessel, it is said.

BRIBE FOR GAYNOR ASKED, IS RUMOR

Continued from page 1

nor," said Mr. MacReynolds. "I told him I had heard that Mr. Hyde had gone to Mr. Williams, of the B. R. T., and stated that for \$50,000 Gaynor's vote could be had in favor of the dual subway contracts and that Williams had spurned the offer. Mr. Whitney told me that was correct, as he had had a conversation with Mr. Williams and Mr. Williams had told him the same thing."

Commissioner Whitney followed Mr. MacReynolds. He said he had a conversation with his predecessor on the stand along the lines testified. He said he could not fix the time Colonel Williams told him about the visit of the messenger, but that it was about the time the B. R. T. and the Interborough were fighting for the dual subway contracts. Mr. Whitney said he could not recall the name of the man mentioned as Hyde's successor.

Williams Rejected Offer.

Colonel Williams was then called. He said he did not recollect talking with Mr. Whitney about being approached. He said he was certain, however, that he did not mention Mr. Hyde's name, as he never met him. "What person did you mention?" asked Mr. Moss.

"I don't remember any names," said Colonel Williams.

"As to your being approached, what is the fact of that?"

"I don't think I ought to testify to that. The man whose name is involved is dead. The information came to me in the shape of a message. Whether the man who imparted the message to me had any right to do so I do not know. I don't even know that the message was given."

"What did the man say to you?" asked Mr. Moss.

"The substance of it was that by paying \$50,000 we could secure this public official's support."

After Colonel Williams refused to name his visitor, saying the man was dead, Mr. Moss asked him if he was a director of the Interborough. To this Colonel Williams said:

"I decline to state."

"Well, the committee directs the witness to answer," said Senator Thompson.

"I decline," said Colonel Williams.

"Don't think you want the answer," said Mr. Moss.

Dead Men's Names Shielded.

Mr. Williams persisted in his re-

frusal, saying that the information he could give would be valueless as evidence as he understood evidence. He said the offer came to him after the B. R. T. offered to build part of the subway. This was in March, 1911. He said the man who came to him may have been a friend of "the city official" (Colonel Williams never mentioned Mayor Gaynor by name) and was a friend of his of long standing. He said he mentioned the offer to three or four people. Their names he also refused to disclose.

"Was the man who came to you Mr. Hyde?" asked Mr. Moss.

"It was not Mr. Hyde."

Mr. Hyde, who was sitting near Mr. Moss, jumped up and requested that the witness be asked if he ever met him. Senator Thompson put the question and Colonel Williams said he never met him.

"Did you ever talk with any one connected with the City Chamberlain's office?" asked Mr. Moss.

"Not that I know of. Mr. Hyde was not in the remotest way connected with this incident."

Whitney Vague About Story.

At this point Colonel Williams declared that he was sure Commissioner Whitney was mistaken in saying that he had heard of the offer from him. Mr. Moss called this to Commissioner Whitney's attention.

"As I said before," answered Mr. Whitney, "I cannot remember my conversation with Colonel Williams. My impression is that I heard such a story, but I cannot recall who told it. It may have been that I heard the story in the offices of the commission from Chairman Willcox or Mr. Harkness."

"Will you say that Mr. Williams did not mention Mr. Hyde's name?" asked Mr. Moss.

"I won't say that he did not," said Commissioner Whitney.

"Did it not strike you as not only wonderful, but a dreadful thing that Mr. Williams had communicated to you?"

"It is very often that stories get circulated that the opinion of a public official on a certain matter could be turned for a certain amount."

Mr. Hyde then took the stand to deny he had ever discussed subways with any railway official. While on the stand he was asked if he had been counsel to John F. Stevens, to whom Theodore P. Shonts had tried to swing the third-tracking contract, which would have brought Mr. Stevens \$2,000,000. It was in connection with Mr. Shonts's efforts in this matter that the talk of a slush fund of \$2,000,000 had been.

Hyde's Letter to Gaynor.

"I was counsel to Mr. Stevens in a general way," said Mr. Hyde. He then identified an undated letter he had written to Mayor Gaynor, which was

found in the files in the basement of the City Hall. It follows:

"Dear Mr. Gaynor: There is a controversy over the award of the contract for the building of the Harlem River tunnel for the new subways. I am one of the attorneys for John F. Stevens, the low bidder on what is undoubtedly the best type of tunnel. Mr. Creuzer would like about five minutes of your time to explain it to you. He could do it in that time and I couldn't. Mr. Creuzer is leaving for Europe tomorrow. Will you see him? It is not a question of the tunnel, but of the money. He would like to see you. He passed over and while the bid accepted by the P. S. C. is the lowest, the type is not the best. Indeed it is not a sane one from an engineering point of view. Sincerely yours, 'CHARLES F. HYDE'."

William B. Ellison, former Corporation Counsel, who told on Friday about the two men who came to him with a story that they had \$500,000,000 to build subways and use in improving waterfront property, and whom he later introduced to Mayor Gaynor, said he believed the men were not impostors. He said one of them, a "Mr. Alexander," he understood was a son of a one-time president of the Standard Oil Company, or one of its subsidiary companies.

Talked Subways with Hawley.

He was asked about his acquaintance with Interborough directors, and said of all of them he knew the late Edwin Hawley best. He said the two discussed the subway situation frequently, but that Mr. Hawley never asked him to do anything in the matter.

Mr. Ellison then told how he and Mr. Hawley discussed the opposition of Mayor Mitchell, who was then President of the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Ellison told Mr. Hawley that he knew Mr. Mitchell well, and that nothing could change Mr. Mitchell's attitude on the subway question except proof that the subways would be run by the Interborough in the interests of the people of the City of New York.

"Mr. Hawley," said Mr. Ellison, "laughed at my earnestness and said: 'He won't be needed.'"

"Did he say in substance that he had the others?" asked Mr. Moss.

"No," said Mr. Ellison.

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